

NSC BRIEFING

7 December 1954

WEST BERLIN ELECTIONS

- I. Although Social Democrats won a one-seat majority in West Berlin legislature in 5 December elections, present indications are they will form two-party coalition with Adenauer's Christian Democratic Union.
 - A. CDU showed a marked gain in popular appeal.
 - B. Such a coalition, which leaders of both parties are said to expect, would assure continuation of moderate economic, social policies, general support for Adenauer on foreign policy.
- II. The Social Democrats won 44 percent of the vote, approximately what they won in the last city elections in 1950.
 - A. The Christian Democrats upped their percentage from 24.6 to 30.
 - B. Their coalition partners, Free Democrats, dropped from 23.0 to 12.7.
 - C. Extreme rightist German Party narrowly missed polling the five percent necessary to gain representation in the city legislature.
 - D. The Socialist Unity (Communist) Party won only 2.7 percent, somewhat less than had been expected.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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